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Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /031 W
---------- 052001
O 211440Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8347

S E C R E T TOKYO 15260

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, JA, XJR
SUBJ: MIDDLE EAST SITUATION: JAPANESE PUBLIC STATEMENT OF POSITION

1. FONOFF AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRGEN OKAWARA INFORMED ME AT APPROXIMATELY 1930 HOURS NOVEMBER 21, THAT GOJ HAD COMPLETED DRAFTING OF PUBLIC STATEMENT OF ITS MIDDLE EAST POSITION AND HAD DECIDED THAT STATEMENT WOULD BE RELEASED BETWEEN 1145 AND 1200 HOURS NOVEMBER 22 (BETWEEN 2145 AND 220 HOURS NOVEMBER 21 WASHINGTON TIME) BY CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY NIKAIDO FOLLOWING CABINET MEETING TO BE CONVENED AT 110 HOURS NOVEMBER 22, AT WHICH TIME FOREIGN MINISTER OHIRA WILL REPORT ON POSITION TO BE TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT. OKAWARA DELIVERED TEXT OF STATEMENT TO ME AT APPROXIMATELY 2130 HOURS NOVEMBER 21. HE HAS EXPLAINED THAT FINAL TEXT IS SUBJECT TO CABINET CONFIRMATION BUT, ALTHOUGH THERE MAY BE SOME MINOR CHANGES, HE DID NOT EXPECT ANY CHANGE IN QTE MAIN POINTS UNQTE. IN INFORMING ME OF FINAL GOJ DECISION TO ISSUE STATEMENT, OKAWARA STATED THAT GOJ APPRECIATES CAREFUL CONSIDERATION GIVEN BY USG, AND PARTICULARLY BY SECRETARY, TO ITS VIEWS BUT THAT QTE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES UNQTE GOJ FELT COMPELLED TO MAKE PUBLIC STATEMENT OF ITS POSITION.

2. OKAWARA EXPLICITLY REQUESTED THAT USG HOLD TEXT IN COMPLETE CONFIDENCE UNTIL RELEASE BY GOJ. FURTHER, HE REQUESTED THAT I CALL ON DEPUTY VICE MINISTER TOGO AT 0900 HOURS NOVEMBER 22 (1900 HOURS NOVEMBER 21 WASHINGTON TIME) TO RECEIVE TEXT QTE OFFICIALLY UNQTE. OKAWARA REQUESTED THAT IF QUERIED AS TO TIME
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WHEN USG GIVEN ADVANCE INFORMATION OF TEXT, USG RESPOND THAT THIS PROVIDED TO US EMBASSY TOKYO AT 0900 HOURS NOVEMBER 22 TOKYO TIME. WHEN I ASKED OKAWARA FOR EXPLANATION OF THIS PROCEDURE, HE STATED THAT GOJ CONCERNED FOR QTE PUBLIC APPEARANCE UNQTE AND

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REACTION OF ARAB GOVERNMENTS.

3. OKAWARA ALSO INFORMED ME THAT NIKAIDO WILL BE PREPARED TO RESPOND TO PRESS QUESTIONS AT TIME STATEMENT IS RELEASED AND THAT FONOFF PUBLIC INFORMATION BUREAU DIRGEN KURODA WILL HOLD CONFERENCE FOR FOREIGN PRESS. WITH RESPECT TO FINAL SENTENCE OF TEXT, BOTH NIKAIDO AND KURODA WILL STATE THAT (AS READ TO ME BY OKAWARA) QTE WE HAVE NO PLAN TO SEVER DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. WE DO NOT THINK THAT THIS WOULD SERVE TO ADVANCE A SETTLEMENT OF THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM UNQTE. TO ANY OTHER QUESTIONS DIRECTED TO THIS SENTENCE, NIKAIDO AND KURODA WILL STATE QTE WE HAVE NO PARTICULAR MEASURES UNDER CONSIDERATION AT THE MOMENT UNQTE.

4. TEXT OF STATEMENT WHICH FOLLOWS DIFFERS IN SOME DETAILS (MOST OF WHICH STRIKE ME AS MINOR) FROM THAT DRAFT WHICH AMBASSADOR YASUKAWA PRESENTED TO SECRETARY DURING THEIR MEETING NOVEMBER 19 (REFTEL PARA 6). LATEST VERSION CERTAINLY REPRESENTS NO IMPROVEMENT, FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW, OVER ANY OF ITS PREDECESSORS. BEGIN TEXT (UNNECESSARY WORDS OMITTED):

1. GOVERNMENT OF JAPN HAS CONSISTENTLY HOPED THAT JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST WILL BE ACHIEVED THROUGH PROMPT AND COMPLETE IMPLEMENTATION OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242, AND HAS CONTINUED TO REQUEST EFFORTS OF PARTIES AND COUNTRIES CONCERNED. IT HAS BEEN PROMPT IN SUPPORTING UNGA RESOLUTION CONCERNING RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE FOR SELF-DETERMINATION.

2. GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN IS OF VIEW THAT FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES SHOULD BE ADHERED TO IN ACHIEVING A PEACE SETTLEMENT.

(1) INADMISSIBILITY OF ACQUISITION AND OCCUPATION OF ANY TERRITORIES BY USE OF FORCE;

(2) WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES FROM ALL THE TERRITORIES OCCUPIED IN 1967 WAR;

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(3) RESPECT FOR INTEGRITY AND SECURITY OF TERRITORIES OF ALL COUNTRIES IN AREA AND NEED OF GUARANTEES TO THAT END; AND

(4) RECOGNITION OF AND RESPECT FOR LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHARTER OF THE UN IN BRINGING ABOUT A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST.

3. GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN URGES THAT EVERY POSSIBLE EFFORT BE MADE TO ACHIEVE JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST IN COMPLIANCE WITH ABOVE-MENTIONED PRINCIPLES. NEEDLESS TO SAY, IT IS INTENTION OF GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN TO MAKE AS MUCH CONTRIBU-TION AS POSSIBLE TOWARDS THAT END.

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GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN, DEPLORING ISRAEL'S CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF ARAB TERRITORIES, URGES ISRAEL TO COMPLY WITH THOSE PRINCIPLES. GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN WILL CONTINUE TO OBSERVE SITUATION IN MIDDLE EAST WITH GRAVE CONCERN AND, DEPENDING ON FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS, MAY HAVE TO RECONSIDER ITS POLICY TOWARD ISRAEL. END TEXT.

5. IN RECEIVING TEXT OF STATEMENT QTE OFFICIALLY UNQTE FROM TOGO MORNING OF NOVEMBER 22, I INTEND UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED, TO DRAW ON REFTEL PARA 4 PARTICULARLY TO REITERATE OUR VIEW THAT STATEMENT WILL UNDERMINE US NEGOTIATING EFFORTS AND THAT USG WILL OF COURSE FIND IT NECESSARY TO DISASSOCIATE ITSELF FROM JAPANESE POSITION. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY OTHER GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO OFFER.

6. IF QUERIED BY PRESS FOLLOWING RELEASE HERE OF STATEMENT, EMBASSY WILL MAKE NO COMMENT AND STATE THAT ANY COMMENT WHICH USG MAY HAVE WILL BE MADE IN WASHINGTON.
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